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North West Youth Corp installing 7,651 feet of fencing in Whitman County



North West Youth Corp assisting with a portion of a 24,725 feet Adams County fencing project



Ritzville High School students volunteer planting 2,500 plants along Cow Creek in Adams County

2008 Feature Accomplishment

Lower Palouse River Project

Resource Challenge

There have been a high number of regulatory referrals targeting unrestricted livestock access to streams for a tri-county, TMDL planning area of nearly 327,000 acres. Attempting to provide all the landowners within this large watershed area with technical service support has been demanding.

Project Summary and Results

Thanks to several service corp groups, over 70,055 feet (13+ miles) of livestock exclusion fencing have been completed during the past year! Many of the areas where fencing projects were implemented were in extremely remote, primitive, and very difficult to access locations! The North West Youth Corp camped on location and provided excellent conservation support for completing much of this difficult work.

Four additional Washington Conservation Corp (WCC) crews also provided several weeks of implementation support to aid the District. In addition to building fences, crews installed three industrial Tire Trough tanks for livestock watering, two solar pumping systems, and 8,700 feet of ditching for off-site water support. Two springs for alternative water sources were also developed, and three additional tanks were added.

Key Project Partners

The Adams Conservation District staff provided basic guidance for WCC crews from Mt Rainier, Wenatchee, and Spokane through Department of Ecology support. The Northwest Youth Corp provided a real boost in the most difficult-to-access terrain. In addition, Ritzville High School students provided excellent volunteer support planting native vegetation along portions of Cow Creek.



Americorp crew installing T-posts in rock

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More Work To Do

The Palouse River and Cow Creek area of Adams County have been a part of the past decade's long range planning project, and numerous active referrals from the regulatory community remain to be completed. This will require a continuation of technical services and cost share support as has been provided during this past year.